



**JOHN HAMILTON
MAYOR**

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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August 31, 2017

Dear Citizens' Academy Participant,

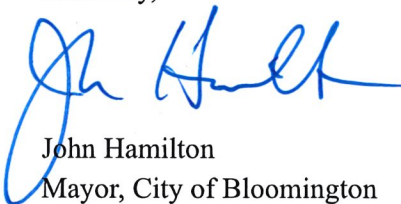
I'm so pleased to be your first presenter in this adventure you are beginning called the Bloomington Citizens' Academy! As a result of your participation you will become more informed and, I hope, more involved residents of this great community. Thank you for being here and taking that first step. I'm confident you'll be glad you did.

Every day of the year, every hour of the day, the employees of the City of Bloomington are working to serve you, our 84,000 residents. Police and fire protection, trash removal, parks programming, bus service, communications -- we're at work making sure you are safe, your environment is clean, you have healthy recreational opportunities, you get where you need to go, and you are up-to-date on everything that's news in Bloomington. And those are just a few of the more visible of our activities on your behalf. There are folks doing engineering work, improving neighborhoods, making sure our water is safe and available, fixing our buildings, our roads and much more -- every day of the year. I know you'll be learning much more about all of these activities and more over the duration of Citizens' Academy.

As your mayor, I believe in "saying what we'll do, and doing what we say." I believe government should be transparent and accountable. I believe data should be available so that everyone can see what we are doing, why we are doing it and how well we are doing it. I believe Bloomington needs to be a place where everyone is welcome and comfortable regardless of economic attainment. I believe each of us deserves a safe, affordable place to live. I believe public schools are one of our most precious assets. I believe high speed internet is to today what electricity was to the 20th century, and that each person in Bloomington should have affordable access to it.

I hope you believe many of the same things I do. I look forward to the opportunity to know you and work together to turn those beliefs into actions to make our city a safe, civil and just community. Our time is our most valuable asset, so thank you for using your time to become a well-informed resident of Bloomington.

Sincerely,



John Hamilton
Mayor, City of Bloomington



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